

Fair Political Practices Commission

Memorandum

To: Chairman Randolph, Commissioners Downey, Knox, Karlan and Swanson

From: Andy Domek, Executive Fellow
Mark Krausse, Executive Director

Subject: Legislative Report

Date: May 21, 2003

The Legislature is in the roughly two-week period of each year when it suspends policy committee hearings on bills in order to focus on passage of the state budget. Please note that we have added two bills, AB 1748 and SBX 17 (of the First Extraordinary Session related to the state budget), two budget-trailer bills, to the list of PRA-related measures.

Informational Items — Bills Amending the PRA

Bill No.	Author	Title	Introduced/Amended
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AB 190 Parra Political Reform Act: Late Contributions Amended 3/25/03

Adds contributions made to or received by a political party committee before the date of any election in which a state candidate is voted on, but after the closing date of the last campaign statement required to be filed before an election to the PRA's definition of a late contribution.

Urgency clause. In Senate Elections Committee. Commission Position: Support if amended.

AB 419 PERS Committee Teachers Retirement Board: elections Introduced 2/14/03

Adds members elected to the Teachers' Retirement Board to the definitions of "Elective Office" and "State Elective Office," thereby triggering certain filing requirements for candidates for and holders of those offices. **Urgency clause. In Senate Committee on Public Employment and Retirement.**

AB 1197 Wiggins School Officials: Conflicts of Interest Amended 5/13/03

Defines a "designated employee" as including any board member, chief business officer, superintendent and assistant superintendent of a public school district or county office of education, and any person having governance or management responsibility in a charter school.

In Assembly Appropriations.

AB 1501 Levine Voluntary expenditure limits Introduced 2/21/03

Allows a state candidate to change his or her statement accepting or rejecting the voluntary expenditure limits at any time prior to the deadline for filing nomination papers, provided that he or she has not exceeded the voluntary limits. **In Senate Elections. Commission Position:**

Support.

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Informational Items — Bills Amending the PRA (cont'd)

Bill No.	Author	Title	Introduced/Amended
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AB 1623 Longville Public Financing of Elections: Freedom Drafts Amended 4/21/03

Repeals the prohibition on using public funds to obtain elected office. Provides for the creation of "Freedom Drafts," defined as a claim on an amount in the State treasury, for an individual to make one or more contributions to an eligible recipient, on a form prescribed by the Secretary of State, in the amount of not less than \$10 each, and which in the aggregate do not exceed \$100 in a calendar year. **Failed passage in Assembly Elections; reconsideration granted.**

AB 1678 Negrete-McLeod Public Officials Amended 4/3/03

This bill would apply to all public officials the PRA's ban on the influencing of any governmental decision relating to those with whom a public official is negotiating, or has any agreement concerning, future employment. **Passed Assembly. In Senate Rules for assignment. Commission Position: Support if amended.**

AB 1748 Committee on Budget Amended 4/28/03

Would require online filing for all state candidates and committees in order to eliminate paper filings and save \$137,000 in SoS staffing costs. **Assembly Budget Committee. Urgency Clause.**

SB 467 Johnson Last-term-officeholder fundraising Introduced 2/20/03

Allows an elected state officer serving his or her last term to accept contributions to pay for expenses associated with holding that office. The contributions are subject to Prop. 34 limits. **Failed Passage in Senate Elections; reconsideration granted.**

SB 530 Johnson SOS Lobbyist Directory Amended 4/28/03

Requires the Secretary of State to establish the Internet Directory of Lobbyists within ninety days after the start of each legislative session. **On Senate floor, special consent.**

SB 604 Perata Cumulative contributions Amended 4/9/03

Reintroduction of SB 3 (Commission sponsored) of last session, along with several other provisions. Defines "cumulative contributions" to be those contributions received beginning 12 months prior to the date the committee made its first expenditure to qualify, support, or oppose the measure and ending within seven days of the time the advertisement is sent to the printer or broadcast station. Also modernizes the language of the Act relating to the filing of a statement of organization by deleting a reference to filing by telegram, and adds methods for filing, including facsimile transmission and guaranteed overnight delivery. **Urgency clause. Passed Senate; in Assembly Elections.**

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Informational Items — Bills Amending the PRA (cont'd)

Bill No.	Author	Title	Introduced/Amended
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SB 641 Brulte Campaign expenditures: telephone advocacy Amended 3/27/03

This bill would change the definition of “mass mailing” found in the Act from “mail” to a specific definition of what items delivered to a person constitute a mass mailing. It also adds language to the act prohibiting the expenditure by a candidate, committee or slate mail organization for anonymous telephone advocacy for a candidate, ballot measure, or referendum. This would not apply to telephone calls made by the candidate, campaign manager, or volunteers. **Urgency clause. In Assembly awaiting referral to Elections Committee.**

SB 733 Johnson Political Reform Act spot bill Introduced 2/21/03

Placeholder measure. **In Senate Rules Committee for assignment.**

SB 1072 Burton Political Reform Act: Late Contributions Introduced 3/13/03

Adds contributions made to or received by a political party committee after the closing date of the last campaign statement required to be filed before an election to the definition of late contribution. **Urgency clause. In Assembly Elections Committee. Commission Position: Support if amended.**

SBX1 7 Committee on Budget Online Filing Requirements Amended 4/28/03

Would require online filing for all state candidates and committees in order to eliminate paper filings and save \$137,000 in SoS staffing costs. **In Assembly Budget And Fiscal Review Committee. Urgency Clause.**